

CLAIMS:

1. A method of increasing insulin sensitivity in a mammalian patient by:
administering to the patient an effective amount of a nitric oxide donor
5 or nitric oxide agonist compound [which stimulates nitric oxide production in the liver].
- 2.(New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the compound is a nitric
oxide donor compound.
- 10 3.(New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the compound is a nitric
oxide agonist compound.
- [2.]4. The method according to claim [1] 2, wherein said administering step
further includes orally administering the compound.
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- 5.(New) The method according to claim 3, wherein said administering step
further includes orally administering the compound.
- [3.]6. The method according to claim [1] 2, wherein said administering step
20 further includes injecting the compound.
- 7.(New) The method according to claim 3, wherein said administering step
further includes injecting the compound.
- 25 [4.]8. The method according to claim [1] 2, wherein said administering step
further includes delivering the compound through a pump system directly into the
portal vein.
- 9.(New) The method according to claim 3, wherein said administering step
30 further includes delivering the compound through a pump system directly into the
portal vein.

[5.]10. A pharmaceutical composition useful to cause an increase in nitric oxide in the liver of a patient in need thereof, said composition comprising an [effective] amount of a nitric oxide donor compound, said amount being effective to
5 cause an increase in [which stimulates] nitric oxide [production] in the liver, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

11.(New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein said donor is adapted to preferentially release nitric oxide in the liver.

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12.(New) A pharmaceutical composition useful in increasing insulin sensitivity in a mammalian patient, said composition comprising an effective amount of a nitric oxide agonist, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

15 13.(New) A kit comprising:
at least one of a nitric oxide donor or a nitric oxide agonist; and,
instructions for the administration of said nitric oxide donor or nitric oxide agonist to ameliorate the symptoms of insulin resistance.

20 14.(New) The kit of claim 13, including a nitric oxide donor.

15.(New) The kit of claim 13, including a nitric oxide agonist.